AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0024] with the following amended paragraph:

Referring next to Figure 5, an exemplary processing element 60 [0024] includes a microprocessor 64 that contains a central processing unit (CPU) 66 and memory elements 68, 69. The memory elements may include a non-volatile memory core portion 68 for holding permanent information, such as operating software, device identifying information, or other such information, and information that may be changeable, but is to be retained through a power-off, power-on sequence. Examples of non-volatile memory may include flash memory, flashcards, nonvolatile integrated circuit chip memory, or bubble memory. The memory also includes a volatile memory portion, such as random access memory 69. The memory elements 68, 69 are connected to the central processing unit 66 so that the central processing unit can receive information and instructions from the memory elements. The central processing unit is also connected to the memory elements 68, 69 so that the central processing unit can write information into the memory elements.